

**Approved Minutes
Clean Energy Development Board
Quarterly Meeting March 03, 2021**

In Attendance (*Meeting held electronically via MS Teams*)

<u>Board Members:</u>	Attending	Absent
Kate Desrochers (KD)	X	
Jared Duval (JD) <i>Co-Chair</i>	X	
David Farnsworth (DF)	X	
Ken Jones (KJ)		X
Sam Swanson (SS) <i>Co-Chair</i>	X	
Johanna Miller (JM)	X	
Paul Zabriskie (PZ)	X	

State Employees:

Andrew Perchlik (**AP**), Fund Manager, Clean Energy Development Fund, Public Service Department (PSD)
Riley Allen, Director of Planning at the PSD.

Members of the Public: Rob Lehmert.

The meeting started at 1:04 with **SS** presiding.

I. Agenda

The draft agenda was reviewed, discussed briefly, and agreed upon.

II. Minutes

JD moved to accept the draft minutes of the Board's 12/16/20 quarterly meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by **PZ** and after **DF** pointed out one typo that was corrected on the presented draft the motion passed unanimously.

III. Briefing and discussion with Riley Allen of the PSD

Riley Allen, Deputy Commission of the PSD, gave a description of the Governor's budget proposal of \$10,000,000 to be used for a low- & moderate-income community solar program that would be funded through the CEDF. Mr. Allen asked the Board members for their thoughts on the proposed program and on the involvement of the CEDF in the program.

There was a discussion between board members and Mr. Allen regarding the proposal and how the CEDF and CED Board would be involved. The Board expressed support for the proposal, but also several Board members expressed concerns that a solar program may not be the best use of the funds. Those expressing concern said that while it was a worthy goal to support low-income Vermonters with electric bill credits via solar, the \$10M could be used for other projects that would be more aligned with the CEDF's strategic-plan, current goals, that would have more impact on reducing the use of fossil fuels and increasing local economic development. These

Board members suggested the PSD advocate to the legislature to give the CEDF the maximum flexibility in designing and implementing programs for which funds are appropriated.

Mr. Allen explained how the PSD saw the solar program aligning with the work of the CEDF and the potential benefits not only to the participants but to the long-term development of clean energy in Vermont.

The Board said they look forward to collaborating with the PSD on CEDF's potential role in the solar program should the budget proposal be approved by the legislature. Mr. Allen said he would keep in contact with **AP** and the Board as the legislation advances.

After Mr. Allen left the meeting, the Board agreed that **JD** would draft a letter to send to the PSD regarding the potential low-income solar program and the CEDF's potential involvement. **JD** said he would send to the Board for review and if he did not receive any edits or concerns, he would have **AP** send to the PSD for the Board.

IV. Fund Manager's Report

AP gave a very brief report, informing the Board that there were no problems or concerns with the few existing grants still active.

V. Planning The Next Meeting

The Board agreed their next meeting be set for Wednesday, June 9, 2021, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

--Without objection **SS** adjourned the meeting at 2:56